

camera unit to perform [at least one of] character recognition of characters appearing in at least a portion of the recorded image and transmittal of a facsimile [transmission] representation of at least a portion of the recorded image.

REMARKS

It is proposed to amend claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 15, 19, 22, 27 and 28.

Claims 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Aoki (U.S. Patent No. 5,438,359).

It is proposed to amend claim 19 to call for a means for transmitting an image processed by the processing means. It is also proposed to amend claims 22 and 27 to be consistent with claim 19. Support for these proposed amendments is found in the specification at least from page 9, line 21 to page 10, line 7, and at page 13, lines 19-28. The entry of these proposed amendments is respectfully requested.

Unlike claim 19, Aoki is not seen to disclose or suggest a means for transmitting an image recorded with a camera unit and processed by a processing means. In contrast to claim 19, Aoki merely teaches an electronic camera system including a camera and an external computer. After an image is taken with an image taking optical system 12, the image is converted to electrical signals by a CCD 14, and is detected as image data. The image data is processed by an image processing circuit 113 and is fed to an image memory 115 through an A/D converter 114. The stored image data is written by the writing/reading circuit 116 onto the IC memory card 3 inserted into a card opening 102 and connected to a connector 104 of the camera, and is not seen to be transmitted.

Therefore, upon the entry of the amendment to claim 19, claim 19, as well as claims 20-21, which depend from base claim 19, are believed to be clearly patentable over Aoki.

Claims 1, 4-18, and 22-26 were rejected under 103(a) as being obvious over Aoki in view of Paajanen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,189,632).

As described above, Aoki discloses an electronic camera system including a camera and an external computer. The camera includes an IC memory card 3, a data writing/reading circuit 116, an interface circuit, and a connector. After an image is taken with an image taking optical system 12, the image is converted to electrical signals by a CCD 14, and is detected as image data. The image data is processed by an image processing circuit 113 and is fed to an image memory 115 through an A/D converter 114. The stored image data is written by the writing/reading circuit 116 onto the IC memory card 3 inserted into a card opening 102 and connected to a connector 104 of the camera.

Paajanen et al. disclose a portable computer telephone and a mobile telephone which are integrated into one structure 1. The structure 1 includes a display screen 3 and a keyboard member 2. The keyboard member 2 is movable between open and closed positions with respect to the structure 1. In the open position the whole display screen 3 and at least a whole keyboard 4, 5 of the computer are accessible for operating the computer. In the closed position, the keyboard member 2 covers a part of the display screen and leaves buttons 6 of the mobile telephone accessible for operating the mobile telephone.

Based on a reading of Aoki and Paajanen et al., there seems to be no suggestion in these references that they be combined in the manner proposed by the Examiner. As the Examiner admits, Aoki does not disclose a device for

personal communication. Absent such a suggestion, there would be no reason why one who is skilled in the art, who was faced with the same problem confronting the Applicants at the time of Applicants' invention, would consult the combination of references suggested by the Examiner.

Also, in any event it is not clear how the teachings of Aoki and Paajanen et al. would be combined in an attempt to provide Applicants' invention as claimed in claims 1, 8, 9, 15 and 19. By example, it is not clear how the keyboard member 2 of Paajenen et al. would be combined with the computer body 21 of Aoki. Indeed, Paajanen et al. teaches that the keyboard member 2 is movable between open and closed positions with respect to the body structure 1. In the closed position, buttons 6 of a mobile telephone portion 3a of a display screen are accessible. Based on a reading of Aoki, however, it would seem that when the display 22 of the Aoki device is in a closed position with respect to the computer body 21, no buttons, keyboard keys, or any portion of display 22 would be accessible. Thus, it is not clear how the keyboard member 2 of Paajanen et al. would be combined with the computer body 21 of Aoki while enabling access to be provided to a keyboard and display, as is required by Paajanen et al. Also, Aoki does not disclose or suggest a mobile telephone that is integrated into the body of the computer 2. Thus, it is not clear how the personal computer 2 of Aoki would need to be altered to include the mobile telephone of Paajanen et al. integrated into the body of the computer 2. Moreover, Paajanen et al. does not disclose or suggest that an electronic camera can be connected to the portable computer telephone of Paajenen et al. Therefore, it is not clear how the camera unit of Aoki would be combined with the portable computer telephone of Paajenen et al.

In order to even further distinguish the subject matter of the Applicants' invention over the prior art relied on by

the Examiner, it is proposed to amend claims 1, 8, 9, 15 and 19 to call for a means for transmitting an image recorded by a camera unit and processed by a processor. More particularly, it is proposed to amend claims 1 and 15 to call for a data processing unit which processes image information obtained by a camera unit, and a means for transmitting image information processed by the data processing unit. It is also proposed to amend claims 8, 9 and 19 to call for a means for processing an image recorded by a camera unit, and a means for transmitting an image processed by the processing means. It is also proposed to amend claims 22 and 27, which depend from claim 19, to be consistent with the proposed amendment to claim 19. Support for these amendments is found in the specification at least from page 9, line 21 to page 10, line 7, and at page 13, lines 19-28. The entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Even if Aoki and Paajanen et al. were combinable in the manner proposed by the Examiner, which is not admitted, neither Aoki nor Paajenen et al. are seen to disclose or suggest a means for transmitting image information received by a camera unit and processed by a processor, as is set forth in claims 1, 8, 9, 15 and 19. In contrast to these claims, Aoki are merely seen to disclose that after an image is taken with image taking optical system 12, the image is converted to electrical signals by a CCD 14, and is detected as image data. The image data is then processed by an image processing circuit 113, and is fed to an image memory 115 through an A/D converter 114. The stored image data is then written by the writing/reading circuit 116 onto the IC memory card 3 inserted into a card opening 102 and connected to a connector 104 of the camera. Also, Paajanen et al. are merely seen to disclose a portable computer telephone and a mobile telephone which are integrated into one structure 1, including a keyboard 2 which is movable between open and closed positions with

respect to the structure 1.

Therefore, upon the entry of the amendments to claims 1, 8, 9, 15 and 19, these claims, as well as dependent claims 4-7, 10-12, 18, 13-14, 16-17 and 20-26, are deemed to be patentable over the Examiner's proposed combination of Aoki and Paajanen et al.

It is proposed to amend claim 28 to further clarify the claimed subject matter. In particular, it is proposed to remove the language "at least one of" from claim 28. Although the Examiner does not mention that claim 28 is rejected over a specific reference, it is assumed that the Examiner intended to reject this claim over Aoki, in view of the arguments appearing in the office action from page 5, line 12 to page 6, line 6. The Examiner states that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to transmit an image recorded by a camera via facsimile transmission, in view of Aoki and the Official Notice taken by the Examiner that it is well known to send a facsimile transmission of a file from a notebook computer. The Examiner is respectfully disagreed with. Claim 28 calls for using a portable notebook computer for storing and processing an image recorded by a camera unit to perform character recognition of characters appearing in the image and transmittal of a facsimile transmission of at least a portion of the image. Although the Examiner states that sending a facsimile transmission of a file from a notebook computer is known, it is not believed that sending an facsimile transmission of an image taken by a camera unit, using a portable notebook computer, is known. Certainly, as the Examiner admits, Aoki does not disclose or suggest transmitting a facsimile transmission of an image. Thus, it is not clear how an image would be transmitted via facsimile from the device of Aoki. Therefore, claim 28 is believed to be patentable over the prior art relied on by the Examiner.

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Aoki in view of Simpson et al. (U.S. Patent No. (5,404,580).

Claim 27 is dependent on claim 19. The teaching of Aoki was described above. Simpson et al. teach a radio (e.g., a cellular radio telephone) 102 which is capable of operating with a set of incoming and outgoing call functions. Removable memory means 132 (e.g., a smart card) are provided for storing radio function selecting information 133 and a radio user validation code. The radio communicates with a radio communications system in response to the code for enabling the radio to receive incoming calls at least. Radio function control means activate a subset of the call functions within the set of call functions in response to the radio function selecting information stored in the removable memory means.

Based on a reading of Aoki and Simpson et al., it is not clear how the teachings of these references would be combined in an attempt to provide Applicants' invention as claimed in claim 19. By example, Aoki is not seen to disclose or suggest a radiotelephone. Therefore, it is not clear how the computer body 21 of Aoki would need to be altered to include the radiotelephone 102 of Simpson et al. Also, Simpson et al. are not seen to disclose or suggest a camera unit. Thus, it is not clear how the radiotelephone 102 of Simpson et al. would need top be altered to be able to connect to a camera unit.

Furthermore, as was described above, it is proposed to amend claim 19 to call for a means for transmitting an image obtained by a camera unit and processed by a processing means. As was argued above, Aoki is not seen to disclose or suggest these features. Simpson et al. are also not seen to disclose or suggest these features. In contrast to claim 19, Simpson et al. are merely seen to

disclose a radio (e.g., a cellular radio telephone) which is capable of operating with a set of incoming and outgoing call functions. Therefore, even if Aoki and Simpson et al. were combinable in the manner suggested by the Examiner, which is not admitted, the combination of these references would still not provide Applicants' invention as is set forth in claim 19. Therefore, claim 19, as well as claim 27, which depends from base claim 19, are believed to be patentable over the Examiner's proposed combination of Aoki and Simpson et al.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter all of the proposed amendments. The Examiner is also respectfully requested to reconsider and remove all of the expressed rejections, and to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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